

Angela has been active in the Yonkers Aquahung Women's Democratic Club as well as doing extensive charity work. Virgilio was born in Malito in southern Italy in 1923 and came to America in 1937. He is president of a construction firm and has involved himself extensively in the community. He is a founding member of the Italian City Club. His name is on "The Wall" at Ellis Island.

They and their three children, Sam, Yvonne, and Margaret Angeletti, and five grandchildren, are celebrating this grand occasion. I join all who believe in love in congratulating them for fifty years together.

IN SUPPORT OF A "DAY TO MAKE
OUR VOICES HEARD"

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for the working men and women in unions around the country who will showcase their ambitions, visions, successes and heartaches in what is being called a "Day to Make our Voices Heard."

We should be proud of their efforts to create unions to give a voice to their aspirations. These men and women embody the democratic ideal. They have joined together to help create better working conditions for themselves and for all Americans.

Unfortunately, the limited rights that workers currently enjoy do not protect them from unfair and uncivil treatment by some employees. And even these limited rights are under attack by the Republican majority.

Let me give you an example from my district of the unfair actions that some employers will take against employees that have joined together to form a union.

One hundred and one workers at Pacific Rail Services, an intermodal yard in Richmond, California, overwhelming voted to join the International Longshore and Warehouse Union last September. The Union negotiated an agreement with Pacific Rail Services, which included wage and benefit increases. But just before it was officially signed, Burlington Northern/Sante Fe pulled the contract from Pacific Rail Services and gave it to another company. All 101 of the newly organized workers at Pacific Rail Services were thrown out on March 15 and a new, non-union workforce brought in.

Despite outrageous acts such as this one, the Republican majority is determined to weaken even further the right of employees to organize and advocate on their own behalf. The majority has already passed a bill through the House to give employers the power to hire and fire workers based solely on their support for union representation.

This so called "Fairness for Small Business and Employees Act of 1998" would undermine one of the most basic rights, the right to freedom of association. The bill permits employees to discriminate against workers on the basis of the workers' union support. It would permit, even encourage, employers to interrogate applicants on their preference for union representation and to refuse to hire an applicant on this basis.

Attacks like these make "A Day to Make Our Voices Heard" even more important. They

remind us that we should be strengthening, not weakening, the rights of employees to ensure they receive fair and timely resolution of their concerns. I join my colleagues in applauding the efforts of workers all across the country to publicize the strong contributions unions make to a productive and civil workplace and highlight unfair business practices, and to bolster the efforts to those of us in Congress to protect workers' rights.

THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, only a short time ago at the turn of this century workers faced sweatshops, low wages, no benefits, and unsafe work places—conditions highlighted in books from the period like Upton Sinclair's, *The Jungle*. These books weren't simply fiction because they described the very real conditions that existed at the time. It's not a period to which I want to return.

Unions played an enormous role in improving these deplorable conditions of the past. But today unions are fighting for their very existence. In our country, as unions have declined, the gap between rich and poor has widened. By attacking unions, the Republicans have been working overtime to return to a past where unions didn't exist but the conditions unions sought to improve did.

Since coming to Congress I've seen labor unions come under attack from all sides: Efforts to repeal Davis-Bacon, pushing down the prevailing wage; decimating OSHA, putting workers' safety at risk; and stalling efforts to raise the minimum wage. That's the climate in Washington.

In spite of these attacks, America's workers still seek to form and join unions. Why? Unions promote the rights of workers, they endorse affirmative action, and they work to close unjustified wage gaps for women and minorities. That's what unions do for American workers.

Mr. Speaker, today's climate is not hospitable to working Americans who wish to organize. There have been documented examples of companies carrying on campaigns to keep their workers from organizing. They've used illegal threats, refusals to promote, illegal warnings, illegal work rules, illegal interrogations, and even illegal surveillance to force workers not to organize.

We can't turn a blind eye to these disturbing practices that workers seeking to organize face everyday. Unfortunately, back-handed tactics and intimidation go a long way to discourage working men and women from organizing. And that's what opponents of unions bank on. These are some of the harshest attacks possible on working Americans and their rights. They're attacks on entities which provide working men and women with the opportunity to improve their lives, their living standards, communities, and companies.

The fact is that not only do union workers earn an average of 33 percent more than non-union workers, but they also are much more likely to have stronger health and pension benefits. We need to let workers know that unions and their members will be there to

strongly support the efforts of those who seek to organize. Labor unions help all working Americans—organized or not. That's why tomorrow's "Day to Make Our Voices Heard" events are so important.

Working men and women built this country, and the labor movement's struggle is their struggle. That struggle never ends and must never be taken for granted. The long uphill climb from the turn of this century could be rolled back by an avalanche of Republican anti-worker ploys. Let's bring back freedom of assembly and freedom of speech to the workplace. Let's respect working Americans' free choice when they seek to organize.

IN MEMORY OF REV. ROBERT
JOSEPH STEVENS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and regret that I must rise today to inform the House that the Rev. Robert J. Stevens recently passed away.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Stevens was a good friend. And, though he has passed, I want to take this opportunity to stand before you today in order to recognize his remarkable career.

As some of you may know, Rev. Stevens spent most of his career serving as one of South Florida's finest morticians. With sensitivity and compassion, Rev. Stevens worked to comfort mourners during what is always a very difficult time in a person's life.

Rev. Stevens graduated from Palm Beach County's Roosevelt Senior High School in 1958. Furthermore, he completed advanced studies at McAllister College of Embalming in New York and North Carolina A & T University. He returned to South Florida to enter into the Stevens Bros. Funeral Home family business in 1973, where he worked until his death several weeks ago.

Rev. Stevens always believed that his greatest achievement was being called into the Ministry to preach the word of God. He was the founder and pastor of New Christ Missionary Baptist Church in West Palm Beach.

In addition to Rev. Stevens' work in his church and funeral home business, he was an active leader of the Florida State Morticians Association, the National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, and the Masons. His extraordinary work on behalf of these organizations will continue to preserve his memory, well into the future.

The passing of Rev. Stevens is a difficult one for me personally. However, Mr. Speaker, I know that he will be missed even more by the people of South Florida. He was there for them as a pastor and as a friend. He will surely be missed.

A TRIBUTE TO MAYOR ELIHU
HARRIS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Mayor Elihu Harris of Oakland has served the public for twenty-

one years as an elected official at both the state and municipal levels. For thirteen years, Mr. Harris served as a California State Assemblyman; over the course of his tenure, he served as Chairman of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and the Jurisdictional Committee, and sponsored many pieces of legislation that have had a direct impact on the City of Oakland and its citizens.

For the past eight years, Mr. Harris has served as the Mayor of the City of Oakland, leading the drive to rebuild and strengthen our great City. In the wake of the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and the 1991 Oakland Hills firestorm—two of the most devastating events in recent city history—among other significant challenges, Harris has provided invaluable leadership and vision, and levied resources to support redevelopment, growth, and community in Oakland.

The Mayor's campaign to renew the City of Oakland has proved highly successful: in 1993, Oakland was designated an All American City by the National Civic League, and Money Magazine has ranked Oakland as one of the top places to live for two consecutive years. Under Harris' watch, crime rates and unemployment have dropped, and the City has experienced a tremendous influx of new business, construction, and jobs.

Equally important is Mr. Harris' record as the People's Champion. Throughout his term, Mayor Harris has worked closely with Oakland's citizens to create new and innovative ways to address important community issues. By providing strong leadership in an atmosphere of inclusiveness, Mr. Harris has mobilized people to believe that they can and will make a difference. A true Citizen-Mayor, Elihu Harris is especially passionate about children and about education: while serving as Oakland's mayor, he launched several important endeavors to support education, among them Camp Read-A-Lot and Project 2000, Ready to Learn.

On June 26, 1998, Mayor Harris will receive an Achievement Award from the Oakland East Bay Democratic Club. The 9th District joins the Oakland East Bay Democratic Club in honoring Mayor Elihu Harris for his years of dedicated service to our community.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 22, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4060) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purpose:

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 4060, the Fiscal Year 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill. Given the limited resources available to the Committee in this era of increasingly tight budgets, this legislation is a balanced bill which represents a bipartisan effort to meet the important energy and water development needs of our Nation.

One area in which I must express concern and disappointment, however, is the funding for the critically important Everglades restoration projects. During last year's historic balanced budget agreement, Everglades funding was held up as one of the few protected domestic discretionary spending priorities. Unfortunately, just one year later, this legislation is unable to meet the critical needs of this restoration effort.

The Everglades National Park is truly one of our Nation's natural treasures and provides tremendous resources which are vital to the environmental health and quality of life in the State of Florida. While we have made great progress in raising awareness of the fragile nature of this diverse ecosystem, much work remains to be done to restore and protect the park for this and future generations.

My hope is that as we move this process forward and begin to work in conference with the Senate, that we will recede to the Senate levels of funding for this work, specifically for the Army Corps of Engineers construction efforts in Central and Southern Florida, the Kissimmee River, and the Everglades and South Florida Ecosystem Restoration projects.

Mr. Chairman, I look forward to working with Members from both side of the aisle to secure adequate funding for these Everglades restoration projects.

MR. KENDALL'S RESPONSE TO MR. STARR'S PRESS RELEASES CONCERNING THE CONTENT MAGAZINE ARTICLE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to enter into the RECORD the following letter from the President's attorney, David E. Kendall, to Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr.

June 16, 1998.

Hon. KENNETH W. STARR,
Independent Counsel,
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 490—North, Washington, DC.

DEAR JUDGE STARR: In the past three days, you have issued two press releases on the subject of leaks from your office. I think it is appropriate to respond to this public relations initiative.

In neither of these two press releases have you denied even a syllable of what the Steve Brill "Pressgate" article quotes you and your staff as saying. You accuse Mr. Brill of misinterpreting but not misquoting, and that's highly significant.

Your statements in the Brill article are at breathtaking variance with your previous public statements about your duties and actions. Your statements consistently have led the public to believe you would tolerate no leaks of any kind. On January 21, 1998, you stated at your public press conference, "I can't comment on the investigation as a matter of practice and of law. I just can't be making comments about the specific aspects of our investigation, including to confirm specific activity or not. . . . As an officer of the court, I just cannot breach confidentiality." At your public press conference on February 5, 1998, you stated in a CNN interview, "I'm not going to comment on the status of our negotiations [with Ms. Lewinsky's law-

yers] . . . I hope you understand, especially when you ask a question about the status of someone who might be a witness, that goes to the heart of the grand jury process. . . . Those are obligations of law; they're obligations of ethics. . . . I am under a legal obligation not to talk about facts going before the grand jury." In your public February 6, 1998, letter to me, you stated that "leaks are utterly intolerable" (your words, not mine) and you went on to say "I have made the prohibition of leaks a principal priority of the Office. It is a firing offense, as well as one that leads to criminal prosecution." (Emphasis added).

What is so astonishing about your comments in the Brill article is that they contradict not simply our view but your own frequently and publicly expressed views both about the need to put a stop to leaking and your own protestations about your and your own staff's utter innocence in that regard.

Your press releases do not, however, address three simple points (there is much else that could be said, of course).

(1) If you need to talk to the press, why not do so on the record?

The Rule of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division promulgated by President Reagan's Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division was: "Never talk off the record with the media. If you don't want your name associated with particular comments or remarks, you shouldn't make them to media representatives." That's a good rule, because it makes everyone aware of who is making a particular statement, and it's especially important if what you're really trying to do is "engender public confidence" in your office. What possible justification do you have for secrecy? It's irresponsible and (under the circumstance) hypocritical.

(2) You are wrongly applying post-indictment standards of allowable prosecutorial comment.

Caught flat-footed by the Brill article, you've attempted to shift your ground by pointing to rules and opinions regarding post-indictment comment by prosecutors. As you well know, the standards are different after an indictment has been brought. At that point, the grand jury has found probable cause to make a criminal charge, the indictment has been openly announced, the defendant has significant procedural rights, including the right to have counsel appointed who will, among other things be able to respond to prosecutorial comments. Prior to indictment, the rule is that grand jury secrecy, a protection designed for witnesses and persons investigated but never finally charged, mandates prosecutorial silence and the confidentiality of grand jury proceedings.

(3) The view of Rule 6(e) that you express in the Brill article and (now) in your press releases is demonstrably not the law.

You are now attempting to justify leaking by you and your Office by claiming that the information your office has covertly given to the media is not covered by Rule 6(e) because, in your own words as quoted by Mr. Brill, "it is definitely not grand jury information, if you are talking about what witnesses tell FBI agents or us before they testify before the grand jury or about related matters. . . . So, it I a not 6-E." (Emphasis in original.) Again, as you well know, this is not the law of the District of Columbia Circuit (or, for that matter, any other circuit). In the Dow Jones case decided by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on May 5, 1998, that court summarized the secrecy rules legally applicable to grand jury investigations. Citing many cases of this Circuit and others decided over the years, the Court of Appeals emphasized that Rule 6(e) is to be given a broad